

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.362**

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| TO: | The Honorable Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee | | |
| FROM: | Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board | | |
| ANALYSTS: | Beth Quick and K. Earle Powell | | |
| DATE: | March 18, 2009 | SBD: | 2009159 |

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| AUTHOR: | Senator Alexander | PRIMARY CODE CITE: | 42-11-30(A) |
| SUBJECT: | Firefighters - Workers' Compensation | | |

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 362 would amend Section 42-11-30(A) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, to provide that any impairment or injury to the health of a firefighter caused by heart disease or respiratory disease resulting in total or partial disability or death is presumed to have arisen out of and in the course of employment if the firefighter has successfully passed a physical exam within the last ten years.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

State Accident Fund (SAF)

The SAF indicates this Bill could result in increased exposure for heart attacks unrelated to work as a firefighter because a heart condition could develop between the last exam (up to ten years) and the time a person enters into service as a firefighter. Any increase in cost would depend on the number of cases and the seriousness of the claims. The direct impact on the fund is not readily determinable. State agencies use various sources of funds (State General, Federal, and Other) to make SAF premium payments.

Workers' Compensation Commission

The Commission indicates this Bill will have no impact on the General Fund of the State or on Federal and/or Other Funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

Any impact on local government is expected to be minimal.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget